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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/733,372	12/08/2000	Paul R. Petersen	M00-175100	1974

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PARK, VAUGHAN & FLEMING LLP
508 SECOND STREET
SUITE 201
DAVIS, CA 95616

EXAMINER

GART, MATTHEW S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3625

DATE MAILED: 01/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/733,372

Applicant(s)

PETERSEN, PAUL R.

Examiner

Matthew s Gart

Art Unit

3625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8,10-15 and 17-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8,10-15 and 17-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 2, 9 and 16 have been previously canceled.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15 and 17-21 are pending in the instant application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15 and 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over alSafadi (U.S. Patent No. 6,467,088) in view of Henson (U.S. Patent No. 6,167,383).

Referring to claim 1. alSafadi discloses a method for facilitating a purchase of a upgrade for a computer system, comprising:

- Obtaining configuration for the computer system (alSafadi: column 2, lines 20-34, "The reconfiguration request can be received directly from the electronic device itself, or other wise supplied to the reconfiguration manager.");
- Determining a upgrade option based upon the configuration information (alSafadi: column 2, lines 34-52, "If the needed and currently implemented components correspond to a configuration on the list of acceptable configurations, the request is approved and the needed components are downloaded or otherwise supplied to the electronic device.");

Art Unit: 3625

- Presenting an option to download the upgrade option to a user of the computer system (alSafadi: Figure 2, step 118); and
- **If the user** indicated that the user would like to download the upgrade option, automatically initiating a download transaction for the upgrade option (alSafadi: Figure 2);
 - Wherein automatically initiating the download transaction involves automatically initiating the download transaction through a website that facilitates downloading the upgrade option (alSafadi: column 5, line 63 to column 6, line 9); and
 - Wherein the configuration information is obtained and automatically sent to the website by the computer system without intervention by the user so that the user does not have to reenter the configuration information (alSafadi: column 2, lines 21-34, "The reconfiguration request can be received directly from the electronic device itself, or otherwise supplied to the reconfiguration manager.").

alSafadi does not expressly disclose a method for facilitating a purchase of a memory upgrade for a computer system. Henson discloses a method for facilitating a purchase of a memory upgrade for a computer system. Henson discloses an on-line store, which is one component of an Internet website for which a customer may go to configure a particular computer system, for example, according to desired options of the customer. The on-line store is typically a subset of a larger Internet website. At the on-

Art Unit: 3625

line store, a customer can select one or more products that the customer is interested in. Upon selection of a particular product, the on-line store presents the customer with the ability to go to the product information for the particular product, customize the product, price the customized product, and purchase the product (Henson: column 4, lines 35-52). Henson further discloses that merchandising may include up selling an extended service warranty, up selling more RAM, or a bigger hard drive or greater memory capacity (Henson: column 15, lines 46-60). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to have modified the system of alSafadi to have included the teachings of Henson as discussed above in order improve the overall quality of an online buying experience through an enhanced online commerce application specific to the ordering of custom-configured computer systems, including personal computer systems (Henson: column 3, lines 45-54).

The Examiner notes, even though the combinations of alSafadi in view of Henson discloses all the limitations of claim 1 as indicated supra, the "if the user indicated..." step of claim 1 is a conditional limitation and is given little patentable weight. Methods are composed of actions, when you perform the actions of a method and do not select one of the alternatives or "if" steps, you are not performing any action under those alternatives. Accordingly, and as in the method itself, once a positively recited step is satisfied, the method as a whole is satisfied -- regardless of whether or not other steps are conditionally invocable under certain other hypothetical scenarios.

Referring to claim 3. alSafadi further discloses a method comprising automatically transferring at least part of the configuration information to the web site so that the user does not have to reenter details of the configuration information into the web site (alSafadi: column 2, lines 21-34, "The reconfiguration request can be received directly from the electronic device itself, or otherwise supplied to the reconfiguration manager.").

Referring to claim 4. alSafadi further discloses a method wherein obtaining the memory configuration information involves reading serial presence detect information from a non-volatile storage device within a memory module in the computer system (alSafadi: column 4, lines 37-47).

Referring to claim 5. alSafadi in view of Henson discloses a method according to claim 1 as indicated supra. Henson further discloses a method wherein determining the memory upgrade option involves:

- Identifying a plurality of memory upgrade options that will work in the computer system based upon the memory configuration information (Henson: Figure 5);
- Allowing the user to select the memory upgrade option from the plurality of memory upgrade options (Henson: Figure 5).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to have modified the system of alSafadi to have included the teachings of Henson as discussed above in order improve the overall quality of an online buying experience through an enhanced online commerce application specific to

Art Unit: 3625

the ordering of custom-configured computer systems, including personal computer systems (Henson: column 3, lines 45-54).

Referring to claim 6. alSafadi further discloses a method wherein obtaining the memory configuration information involves obtaining at least one of:

- An amount of memory installed in the computer system (alSafadi: column 5, lines 4-19);
- A maximum amount of memory that can be installed in the computer system (alSafadi: column 5, lines 4-19);
- A number of memory module sockets that are available to accept memory modules in the computer system (alSafadi: column 5, lines 4-19); and
- An operating speed for memory in the computer system (alSafadi: column 5, lines 4-19).

Referring to claim 7. alSafadi further discloses a method wherein prior to obtaining the memory configuration information, the method comprises receiving a command from the user to initiate a memory upgrade for the computer system (alSafadi: column 2, lines 21-34, "The reconfiguration request can be received directly from the electronic device itself, or otherwise supplied to the reconfiguration manager.").

Referring to claims 8 and 10-14. Claims 8 and 10-14 are rejected under the same rationale as set forth above in claims 1 and 3-7.

Referring to claims 15 and 17-21. Claims 8 and 10-14 are rejected under the same rationale as set forth above in claims 1 and 3-7.

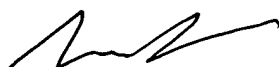
Art Unit: 3625

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew s Gart whose telephone number is 703-305-5355. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM to 5:00PM m-f.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on 703-308-1344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



MSG
Patent Examiner
December 21, 2004